

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A brush cleaning device to clean paintbrushes, artist brushes, arts &
5 crafts brushes and cosmetic brushes, said device comprising:

 (a) a tank having closed sides and a bottom defining an interior for
 containing cleaning liquid;

 (b) a brush frame comprising at least one rotatably mounted rotating
 cleaning means having a length and an outer surface and being in contact
10 with said cleaning fluid;

 (c) at least one stationary cleaning means having a length and an
 outer surface and being in contact with said cleaning fluid;

 (d) a means for providing power to rotate said rotating cleaning
 means; and

15 (e) an access means for permitting an operator to contact the
 paintbrush, artist brush or cosmetic with the rotating cleaning means and
 cleaning fluid; wherein

 the rotating cleaning means and stationary cleaning means comprise a
 bristle portion on their respective outer surfaces, and wherein the bristle portion

on the stationary cleaning means does not contact the bristle portion on the rotating cleaning means.

2. The paintbrush-cleaning device of claim 1 wherein the rotating
5 cleaning means is configured to rotate towards the interior of the tank.

3. The brush-cleaning device of claim 1 wherein the bristle portion of
the rotating cleaning means and the bristle portion of the stationary
cleaning means comprise a plurality of tufts extending outward from the
10 their respective outer surfaces.

4. The brush-cleaning device of claim 3 wherein the plurality of tufts
is configured in a spiral pattern along substantially the entire length of the
rotating cleaning means.

15 5. The brush-cleaning device of claim 3, wherein at least a portion of
the tufts are configured in a cone shape.

6. The brush cleaning device of claim 3, wherein the tufts are disposed in tuft holes and wherein adjacent tuft holes are separated by a wall.

7. The brush cleaning device of claim 6, wherein the wall between adjacent tuft holes has a thickness, and wherein the thickness is from about 0.0001mm thick to about 0.1 mm thick.

8. The brush cleaning device of claim 7, wherein the wall between adjacent tuft holes has a thickness, and wherein the thickness is from about 0.0005 mm thick to about 0.005 mm thick.

9. The brush cleaning device of claim 8, wherein the wall between adjacent tuft holes has a thickness, and wherein the thickness is about 0.00025 mm thick.

10. The brush cleaning device of claim 3, wherein the tuft comprises a tuft base, and wherein the diameter of the tuft at the tuft base is from about 0.005 cm to about 5.0 cm.

11. The brush cleaning device of claim 10, wherein the tuft comprises a tuft base, and wherein the diameter of the tuft at the tuft base is from about 0.01 cm to about 1.0 cm.

12. The brush cleaning device of claim 11, wherein the tuft comprises a tuft base, and wherein the diameter of the tuft at the tuft base is from about 0.015 cm to about 0.25 cm.

13. The brush cleaning device of claim 3, wherein the tuft comprises a length and wherein the length is from about 0.5 cm to about 25 cm.

14. The brush cleaning device of claim 13, wherein the tuft comprises a length and wherein the length is from about 0.75 cm to about 10 cm.

15. The brush cleaning device of claim 14, wherein the tuft comprises a length and wherein the length is from about 1 cm to about 5 cm.

16. The brush cleaning device of claim 1, wherein the means for providing power to rotate the rotating cleaning means is selected from the

group consisting of electric motors, battery-operated motors, manual cranks, the operator's hand motion, and paddlewheels.

17. The brush-cleaning device of claim 1 wherein said rotating cleaning means comprises at least one gear that communicates with the means for providing power.

18. A brush cleaning device to clean artist brushes, paint brushes and cosmetic brushes, said device comprising:

(a) a tank having closed sides and a bottom defining an interior;

(b) a brush frame disposed within the tank, said brush frame comprising a pair of rotating cleaning means comprising a bristle portion and a stationary cleaning means comprising a bristle portion,

(c) a motor housing comprising a first opening connecting to the tank; and

(d) a top cover disposed on the upper surface of the motor housing, said top cover comprising a second opening in communication with the first opening and with the tank; wherein the bristle portion of the rotating

cleaning means do not touch the bristle portion of the stationary cleaning means.

19. The brush cleaning device of claim 18, wherein the pair of rotating
cleaning means are disposed parallel to one another and the stationary
cleaning means is disposed below the pair of rotating cleaning means.

20. The paintbrush-cleaning device of claim 18 wherein the rotating
cleaning means is configured to rotate towards the interior of the tank.

21. The brush-cleaning device of claim 18 wherein the bristle portion of
the rotating cleaning means and the bristle portion of the stationary
cleaning means comprise a plurality of tufts extending outward from the
their respective outer surfaces.

22. The brush-cleaning device of claim 21 wherein the plurality of tufts
is configured in a spiral pattern along substantially the entire length of the
rotating cleaning means.

23. The brush cleaning device of claim 21, wherein the tufts are disposed in tuft holes and wherein adjacent tuft holes are separated by a wall.

24. The brush cleaning device of claim 23, wherein the wall between adjacent tuft holes has a thickness, and wherein the thickness is from about 0.0001mm thick to about 0.1 mm thick.

25. The brush cleaning device of claim 24, wherein the wall between adjacent tuft holes has a thickness, and wherein the thickness is from about 0.0005 mm thick to about 0.005 mm thick.

26. The brush cleaning device of claim 25, wherein the wall between adjacent tuft holes has a thickness, and wherein the thickness is about 0.00025 mm thick.

27. The brush cleaning device of claim 21, wherein the tuft comprises a tuft base, and wherein the diameter of the tuft at the tuft base is from about 0.005 cm to about 5.0 cm.

28. The brush cleaning device of claim 27, wherein the tuft comprises a tuft base, and wherein the diameter of the tuft at the tuft base is from about 0.01 cm to about 1.0 cm.

29. The brush cleaning device of claim 28, wherein the tuft comprises a tuft base, and wherein the diameter of the tuft at the tuft base is from about 0.015 cm to about 0.25 cm.

30. The brush cleaning device of claim 21, wherein the tuft comprises a length and wherein the length is from about 0.5 cm to about 25 cm.

31. The brush cleaning device of claim 30, wherein the tuft comprises a length and wherein the length is from about 0.75 cm to about 10 cm.

32. The brush cleaning device of claim 31, wherein the tuft comprises a length and wherein the length is from about 1 cm to about 5 cm.

33. The brush cleaning device of claim 18 wherein the means for providing power to rotate the rotating cleaning means is selected from the group consisting of electric motors, battery-operated motors and manual cranks.

5 34. The brush-cleaning device of claim 18 wherein said rotating cleaning means comprises at least one gear that communicates with a drive gear in communication with the means for providing power.